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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/517,182

**Applicant(s)**

MAEKAWA ET AL.

**Examiner**

DANGELINO N. GORTAYO

**Art Unit**

2168

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 February 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 12-17 and 21-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 12-17 and 21-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB-08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/23/2010
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 2/23/2010 has been entered.

### ***Response to Amendment***

2. In the amendment filed on 2/23/2010, claims 12, 14, and 21 have been amended. Claim 18 has been cancelled. Claim 28 has been added. The currently pending claims considered below are Claims 12-17 and 21-28.

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

3. Initialed and dated copy of Applicant's IDS form 1449, filed 1/12/2010, is attached to the instant Office action.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 12-17 and 21-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by Wang (US Patent 7,349,967 B2, cited in the IDS filed 9/16/2008) in view of Yi (US Patent 6,813,715 B2)

**As per claim 12, Wang** teaches "An electronic device configured to be used with an access device and a server device having operation screen information," (see Abstract)

"comprising: an address providing part which provides and registers electronic device access information to the server device at an arbitrary timing so that the electronic device access information stored in an access information management part of the server is updated to the latest;" (column 9 lines 40-67, column 18 line 40 – column 19 line 60, column 20 line 23 – column 21 line 28, column 22 lines 21-51, wherein devices contain an IP address that can be updated after a collision detection or a reset of the device, automatically updating the address stored in a server directory for the device)

"an operation screen information storage part which stores operation screen information that is information to configure a screen for operating one of the electronic device and another electronic device;" (column 34 lines 42-50, column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 15, wherein a gateway device connected to a manufacturer server and a remote user interface device can generate a GUI to control and operate electronic devices in a home network)

“an operation information transmission part which transmits the operation information at a request of the access device” (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43, wherein the GUI generated by a gateway device is sent to an accessing remote device to be displayed to a remote user) “the access device having a server identifier of the server device stored in advance and requesting a locator of the electronic device from the server device using the server identifier” (column 40 line 65 – column 41 line 15, column 46 lines 16-35, wherein the remote device communicates with a manufacturer server acting as a home portal to determine the address of a gateway in a home network)

“a device operation screen information reception part which accepts device operation information from the access device;” (column 47 lines 14-44, wherein a gateway device in a home network accepts input from a user through the GUI sent to a remote device)

“and a device drive part which operates based on the device operation information that the device operation screen information reception part has accepted,” (column 49 line 14 – column 50 line 14, wherein a gateway device is utilized to control and operate devices in a home network)

“wherein the electronic device access information of the electronic device includes a dynamically changing global Internet protocol (IP) address.” (column 17 line 62 – column 18 line 38, column 18 line 40 – column 19 line 67, column 21 line 57 – column 22 line 52, column 40 line 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64, wherein the dynamic IP

address for devices can be utilized and resolved by the home portal in a server to handle device addressing and port forwarding of the dynamic IP address)

“wherein the access device is permitted to access the electronic device when at least two different identifiers match identifiers stored in the server device.” (column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 35, column 48 lines 26-42, column 52 line 46 – column 53 line 67, wherein a user on a remote device is permitted to access devices in a home network after user login and password is entered, and address information of the remote device and user information is mapped for access to the devices in the home network)

Wang does not specifically teach that the server device, responsive to the access device being permitted to access the electronic device, transmitting the electronic device access information of the electronic device such that the operation information is transmitted after the access device receives the electronic device access information of the electronic device from the server device by the electronic device to the access device while bypassing the server device.

Yi teaches the server device, responsive to the access device being permitted to access the electronic device, transmitting the electronic device access information of the electronic device such that the operation information is transmitted after the access device receives the electronic device access information of the electronic device from the server device by the electronic device to the access device while bypassing the server device (Figure 6, column 4 lines 11-61, column 5 lines 21-42, column 5 line 60 – column 6 line 14, wherein a home portal server contains an information management

database and an authentication server unit that monitors the communication in a home network and sends a remote apparatus information about a home gateway, including an IP identifier, which allows the home gateway and remote apparatus to communicate directly with each other after the address is received, without going through the home portal server).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Wang's method of accessing a network of devices through an access device and a server device with Yi's ability for a server to transmit to a remote apparatus utilized by a client information about a home gateway in a home networking system for direct communication between the remote apparatus and the home gateway. This provides the user with the ability to directly access a home device through a remote apparatus, by retrieving the address stored in a server and utilizing the address for direct device access through the home gateway. The motivation for doing so would be to securely provide a remote user with the private IP address of devices in a home network (column 1 lines 22-40).

**As per claim 13, Wang** teaches "a device operation information setting part which stores the device operation information accepted by the device operation information reception part," (column 49 lines 14-45) "wherein the device drive part operates based on the device operation information stored by the device operation information setting part." (column 47 lines 22-44, column 48 lines 26-42)

**As per claim 14, Wang** teaches "An information processing method to be used in an electronic device configured to be used with an access device and a server device," (see Abstract)

"comprising: an address providing part which provides and registers electronic device access information to the server device at an arbitrary timing so that the electronic device access information stored in an access information management part of the server is updated to the latest;" (column 9 lines 40-67, column 18 line 40 – column 19 line 60, column 20 line 23 – column 21 line 28, column 22 lines 21-51, wherein devices contain an IP address that can be updated after a collision detection or a reset of the device, automatically updating the address stored in a server directory for the device)

"an operation information transmission step of transmitting operation information that is information to operation of one of the electronic device, at a request;" (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43, wherein the GUI generated by a gateway device is sent to an accessing remote device to be displayed to a remote user)

"a server identification storing step of storing a server identifier of the server device, in the access device;" (column 45 lines 44 – column 46 line 44, column 47 lines 23-44, wherein a remote access device communicates with a determined home portal to communicate with a gateway device of the home network)

"a locator requesting step of requesting the electronic device access information of the electronic device from the server device identified by using the server identifier stored in the access device in advance;" (column 45 lines 43-57, column 46 lines 16-35,



column 47 lines 23-44, wherein a remote access devices access transmits requests to a home portal via secure communication)

“the locator requesting step including, verify that the access device is permitted to access the electronic device,” (column 52 lines 7-46, wherein a login page is utilized by a gateway device to verify user permission)

“including matching information from the access device with at least two different identifiers stored in the server device to generate a matching result” (column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 35, column 48 lines 26-42, column 52 line 46 – column 53 line 67, wherein a user on a remote device is permitted to access devices in a home network after user login and password is entered, and address information of the remote device and user information is mapped for access to the devices in the home network)

“a device operation information reception step of accepting device operation information from the access device;” (column 47 lines 14-44, wherein a gateway device in a home network accepts input from a user through the GUI sent to a remote device)

“and a device drive step of operating based on the device operation information accepted at the device operation information reception step.” (column 49 line 14 – column 50 line 14, wherein a gateway device is utilized to control and operate devices in a home network)

Wang does not specifically teach transmitting, by the server device the electronic device access information of the electronic device after the access device is verified to have access to the electronic device such that the operation information is transmitted

after the access device receives the locator of the electronic device from the server by the electronic device to the access device while bypassing the server device.

Yi teaches transmitting, by the server device the electronic device access information of the electronic device after the access device is verified to have access to the electronic device such that the operation information is transmitted after the access device receives the locator of the electronic device from the server by the electronic device to the access device while bypassing the server device (Figure 6, column 4 lines 11-61, column 5 lines 21-42, column 5 line 60 – column 6 line 14, wherein a home portal server contains an information management database and an authentication server unit that monitors the communication in a home network and sends a remote apparatus information about a home gateway, including an IP identifier, which allows the home gateway and remote apparatus to communicate directly with each other after the address is received, without going through the home portal server).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Wang's method of accessing a network of devices through an access device and a server device with Yi's ability for a server to transmit to a remote apparatus utilized by a client information about a home gateway in a home networking system for direct communication between the remote apparatus and the home gateway. This provides the user with the ability to directly access a home device through a remote apparatus, by retrieving the address stored in a server and utilizing the address for direct device access through the home gateway. The motivation for

doing so would be to securely provide a remote user with the private IP address of devices in a home network (column 1 lines 22-40).

**As per claim 15, Wang** teaches “a device operation information setting step of storing the device operation information accepted at the device operation information reception step,” (column 49 lines 14-45) “wherein an operation is carried out based on the device operation information stored at the device operation information setting step, at the device drive step.” (column 47 lines 22-44, column 48 lines 26-42)

**As per claim 16, Wang** teaches “the operation information storage part includes an operation screen storage part which stores operation screen information to configure a screen for operating one of the electronic device and another electronic device;” (column 34 lines 42-50, column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 15)

“the operation information transmission part includes the operation screen information transmission part which transmits the operation screen information at the request of the access device, the operation screen information is transmitted after the access device receives the electronic device access information of the electronic device from the server device;” (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43)

“the device operation information reception part includes a device operation screen information reception part which accepts device operation screen information; and the device drive part operates based on the device operation information that the device operation screen information reception part has accepted.” (column 40 line 65 – column 41 line 15, column 46 lines 16-35)

**As per claim 17, Wang** teaches "the operation information transmission step includes transmitting operation screen information that is information to configure a screen for operating one of the electronic device and another electronic device, at the request." (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43)

**As per claim 21, Wang** teaches "An information processing system" (see Abstract)

"comprising: an electronic device;" (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43, gateway device)

"an access device capable of accessing the electronic device via a connection to a communication network, the access device operable to request electronic device access information of the electronic device from a server device identified by using a server identifier of the server device, the access device including a server device identifier storage part operable to store the server identifier of the server device," (Figure 22 reference 1052, column 45 lines 27-57, column 46 lines 16-35, column 47 lines 65 - column 48 line 14, wherein a remote user utilizing a remote access device is identified and accesses the home network)

"wherein the electronic device includes: an address providing part which provides and registers electronic device access information to the server device at an arbitrary timing so that the electronic device access information stored in an access information management part of the server is updated to the latest;" (column 9 lines 40-67, column 18 line 40 – column 19 line 60, column 20 line 23 – column 21 line 28, column 22 lines

21-51, wherein devices contain an IP address that can be updated after a collision detection or a reset of the device, automatically updating the address stored in a server directory for the device)

“an operation information storage part operable to store operation information including information to configure operation of the electronic device or another electronic device;” (column 34 lines 42-50, column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 15, wherein a gateway device connected to a manufacturer server and a remote user interface device can generate a GUI to control and operate electronic devices in a home network)

“and an operation information transmission part operable to transmit the operation information at a request of the access device;” (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43, wherein the GUI generated by a gateway device is sent to an accessing remote device to be displayed to a remote user)

“wherein the electronic device access information of the electronic device includes a dynamically changing global Internet protocol (IP) address.” (column 17 line 62 – column 18 line 38, column 18 line 40 – column 19 line 67, column 21 line 57 – column 22 line 52, column 40 line 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64, wherein the dynamic IP address for devices can be utilized and resolved by the home portal in a server to handle device addressing and port forwarding of the dynamic IP address)

“wherein the access device is permitted to access the electronic device when at least two different identifiers match identifiers stored in the server device.” (column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 35, column 48 lines 26-42, column 52 line 46 – column 53 line

67, wherein a user on a remote device is permitted to access devices in a home network after user login and password is entered, and address information of the remote device and user information is mapped for access to the devices in the home network)

Wang does not specifically teach wherein the electronic device access information of the electronic device is transmitted by the server device responsive to the access device being permitted to access the electronic device such that the operation information is transmitted by the operation information transmission part after the access device receives the electronic device access information of the electronic device from the server device by the electronic device to the access device while bypassing the server device.

Yi teaches the electronic device access information of the electronic device is transmitted by the server device responsive to the access device being permitted to access the electronic device such that the operation information is transmitted by the operation information transmission part after the access device receives the electronic device access information of the electronic device from the server device by the electronic device to the access device while bypassing the server device (Figure 6, column 4 lines 11-61, column 5 lines 21-42, column 5 line 60 – column 6 line 14, wherein a home portal server contains an information management database and an authentication server unit that monitors the communication in a home network and sends a remote apparatus information about a home gateway, including an IP identifier,

which allows the home gateway and remote apparatus to communicate directly with each other after the address is received, without going through the home portal server).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Wang's method of accessing a network of devices through an access device and a server device with Yi's ability for a server to transmit to a remote apparatus utilized by a client information about a home gateway in a home networking system for direct communication between the remote apparatus and the home gateway. This provides the user with the ability to directly access a home device through a remote apparatus, by retrieving the address stored in a server and utilizing the address for direct device access through the home gateway. The motivation for doing so would be to securely provide a remote user with the private IP address of devices in a home network (column 1 lines 22-40).

**As per claim 22, Wang** teaches "the electronic device access information of the electronic device further includes a port number" (column 17 line 62 – column 18 line 38, column 18 line 40 – column 19 line 67, column 21 line 57 – column 22 line 52, column 26 lines 33-67, column 40 line 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64)

**As per claim 23, Wang** teaches "the electronic device access information of the electronic device further includes a port number" (column 17 line 62 – column 18 line 38, column 18 line 40 – column 19 line 67, column 21 line 57 – column 22 line 52, column 26 lines 33-67, column 40 line 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64)

**As per claim 24, Wang** teaches "the electronic device access information of the electronic device further includes a port number" (column 17 line 62 – column 18 line

38, column 18 line 40 – column 19 line 67, column 21 line 57 – column 22 line 52,  
column 26 lines 33-67, column 40 line 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64)

**As per claim 25, Wang** teaches the operation information storage part includes an operation screen information storage part which stores operation screen information to configure a screen for operating one of the electronic device and another electronic device; (column 47 lines 13-44, column 48 lines 43-56)

the operation information transmission part transmits the operation screen information to the access device after the access device receives the electronic device access information of the electronic device from the server device; (column 47 lines 13-44, column 48 lines 43-56)

the device operation information reception part includes a device operation screen information reception part which accepts device operation screen information transmitted from the access device (column 49 lines 46—column 50 line 14)

and the device drive part operates based on the device operation information that the device operation screen information reception part has accepted (column 49 lines 46—column 50 line 14)

**As per claim 26, Wang and Yi** are disclosed as per claim 14 above. Yi additionally teaches “the operation information transmission step includes transmitting operation screen information that is information to configure a screen for operating one of the electronic device and another electronic device to the access device while



bypassing the server device.” (column 4 lines 11-61, column 5 lines 21-42, column 5 line 60 – column 6 line 14)

**As per claim 27, Wang** teaches “the operation information storage part includes an operation screen information storage part which stores operation screen information to configure a screen for operating one of the electronic device and another electronic device;” (column 47 lines 13-44, column 48 lines 43-56

the operation information transmission part transmits the operation screen information to the access after the access device receives the electronic device access information of the electronic device from the server device and a request has been received from the access device; (column 47 lines 13-44, column 48 lines 43-56)

and the electronic device further includes a device operation information reception part including a device operation screen information reception part which accepts device operation screen information transmitted from the access device to the server device (column 49 lines 46—column 50 line 14).

**As per claim 28, Wang** teaches “a first one of the at least two different identifiers includes a first identifier indicating the access device and a second one of the at least two different identifiers includes a second identifier, different from the first identifier, indicating a user of the access device.” (column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 35, column 48 lines 26-42)

***Response to Arguments***

6. Applicant's arguments, see page 8, filed 2/23/2010, with respect to the rejection under 35 USC 103(a) have been fully considered but are moot in view of new grounds of rejection.

a. Examiner is entitled to give claim limitations their broadest reasonable interpretation in light of the specification. See MPEP 2111 [R-I]

Interpretation of Claims-Broadest Reasonable Interpretation

During patent examination, the pending claims must be 'given the broadest reasonable interpretation consistent with the specification.' Applicant always has the opportunity to amend the claims during prosecution and broad interpretation by the examiner reduces the possibility that the claim, once issued, will be interpreted more broadly than is justified. In re Prater, 162 USPQ 541,550-51 (CCPA 1969).

b. Applicant's argument is stated as Wang in view of Yi does not teach "wherein the access device is permitted to access the electronic device when at least two different identifiers match identifiers stored in the server device."

In regards to the argument, Examiner respectfully disagrees. Wang, as summarized in column 3 lines 20-49 discloses a method for providing a user interface to a remote access device to communicate with a home network containing various devices. As taught in column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 35, column 48 lines 26-42, column 52 line 46 – column 53 line 67, Wang teaches that to access devices in a home network, a user on a remote device must log into the gateway and provide user login and password information. Once a user

is logged in, and address information for the remote device is read by the gateway device, interpreted by the Examiner as the server device, address mapping is then provided to generate address information for devices, permitting the user access to devices. As disclosed in column 47 lines 45-64, digital certificates are provided to remote devices for security, wherein each device able to access the home network is identified in the digital certificate, the digital certificate containing address information for the remote device as verified by a home portal. As interpreted by the Examiner, Wang's ability to utilize both user information, provided in login and password prompt, and digital certificates for authorized remote devices teaches permitting access to electronic devices when the user information is verified and a digital certificate is provided. Therefore, Wang in view of Yi teaches wherein the access device is permitted to access the electronic device when at least two different identifiers match identifiers stored in the server device.

c. As to the argument that Wang does not teach newly added dependent claim 28, Examiner respectfully disagrees. As disclosed in the above rejection, Wang, in column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 35, column 48 lines 26-42, teaches that user login information and remote device address information are utilized when verifying that a user is permitted access to devices in a home network. As further summarized in column 48 lines 48-67, a user on a remote devices utilizes user information to log in and remote device address to access devices through the gateway device. Therefore, Wang teaches a first one of the at least two

different identifiers includes a first identifier indicating the access device and a second one of the at least two different identifiers includes a second identifier, different from the first identifier, indicating a user of the access device.

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Keyes et al. (US Publication 2003/0041135 A1)

Wendorf et al. (US Patent 7,257,821 B2)

Saint-Hilaire et al. (US Patent 7,299,304 B2)

Krusche et al. (US Patent 7,565,626 B2)

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DANGELINO N. GORTAYO whose telephone number is (571)272-7204. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim T. Vo can be reached on (571)272-3642. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Dangelino N Gortayo/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2168

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Examiner

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